

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA:JJHELBLE/SB

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HABIB
H - WRICHARDSON (PHONE)

----- 105025

R 210021Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XB

SUBJECT: HABIB TESTIMONY BEFORE WOLFF HIRC SUBCOMMITTEE

1. FOLLOWING ARE SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB'S HEARING BEFORE CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S HIRC SUBCOMMITTEE ON FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY NOVEMBER 18. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION WAS TRANSMITTED VIA USIA WIRELESS FILE. MOST OF THE QUESTIONS WERE REGIONAL IN NATURE, OR DIRECTED TOWARD JAPAN AND KOREA. THERE WERE NO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON THE PHILIPPINES, AND THE FEW QUESTIONS ON INDONESIA WERE UNCONTROVERSIAL.

2. HABIB (ANSWERING WOLFF QUERY ON THREATS TO AREA):
"I DONT THINK WE SEE ANY EVIDENCE OF ANY IMMEDIATE THREATS, BUT ... AT ANY RATE, JAPANESE BELIEVE AND, WE BELIEVE, THEIR NEIGHBORS BELIEVE THAT THE MUTUAL SECURITY

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TREATIES DO PROVIDE A DETERRENCE. ... THEY PROVIDE A

DETERRENT TO JAPAN'S REARMAMENT, WHICH, IN ITSELF, IS OF SOME INTEREST TO THE U.S."

3. HABIB (ON U.S. BASES IN JAPAN RE KOREA CONFLICT):
"THERE IS A CONSULTATION PROVISION PROVIDED FOR IN THE MUTUAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPAN IN SUCH A CASE

AND EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT THAT MEANS AND IT IS PART OF THE DETERRENCE."

4. REP SOLARZ REFERRED TO "SOME LINGERING RELICS OF THE COLD WAR PERSPECTIVE WHICH WERE BEING HARBORED IN OUR EMBASSY IN JAPAN" WHEN RAISING ISSUE OF APPOINTMENT WITH JCP HE SOUGHT DURING CODEL'S SUMMER TRIP. (FOR EMBASSY TOKYO INFO, WE ARE POUCHING FULL EXCHANGE ON THIS SUBJECT, ON WHICH HABIB HAD BEEN PREPARED.) HABIB, ANSWERING SOLARZ'S CRITICISM THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD HAVE CONTACT WITH THE JCP, AND IN CONTEXT OF SOLARZ'S REFERENCE TO RECENT JSP VISIT TO U.S., INTER ALIA STATED "IF THE JCP WERE TO HAVE PROPOSED AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION, WE WOULD HAVE TAKEN IT UNDER VERY SERIOUS CONSIDERATION."

5. HABIB (ANSWERING REP SOLARZ'S QUERY OF CONTINUED JUSTIFICATION FOR U.S. TROOP PRESENCE FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF MOD PLAN): "IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN STATED BOTH BY OURSELVES AND BY THE KOREANS, FOR THAT FACT, THAT AT SOME STAGE, DEPENDING UPON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THAT U.S. FORCES COULD BE REDUCED OR WOULD LEAVE KOREA. NOBODY HAS EVER DEFINED IT PRECISELY AS TO A GIVEN TIME OR GIVEN DATE. ... THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN THAT WE REVIEW THE MATTER PREPARATORY TO EACH FISCAL YEAR AND MAKE A DETERMINATION THAT FISCAL YEAR. IN THIS CASE WE HAVE MADE THE DETERMINATION INTO FY 1977 THAT WE WILL NOT REDUCE OUR FORCES."

6. HABIB (ANSWERING REP SOLARZ'S QUESTION ON REDEPLOYMENT OF U.S. FORCES SOUTH OF SEOUL): "THE REASON THE DIVISION IS THERE IS TO MAKE SURE THE DETERRENT IS CREDIBLE... SECONDLY, IN ORDER TO MOVE THE DIVISION IT WOULD REQUIRE A VERY, VERY HEAVY OUTLAY OF FUNDS. ... IN ADDITION, YOU WOULD HAVE TO RESTRUCTURE YOUR DEFENSE POSTURE

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SUBSTANTIALLY."

7. HABIB (RESPONDING TO REP SOLARZ'S PROPOSAL FOR AN AMENDMENT TO CURRENT FAA WHICH WOULD INDICATE U.S. RESPONSE UNDER MST WOULD BE TO SOME EXTENT A FUNCTION OF ROKG'S RECORD IN RECOGNIZING HUMAN RIGHTS): "I CAN TELL YOU FROM MY OWN PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF YOUR VIEWS (ON HUMAN RIGHTS)

AND WITH THE STRENGTH WITH WHICH YOU HOLD THEM...WHEN IT (SOLARZ-S PROPOSED AMENDMENT) IS INTRODUCED BASICALLY PROVIDE OUR CONSIDERED VIEWS...I WOULD ARGUE BASICALLY THAT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY COMMITTEES SUCH AS YOURS ARE MUCH MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN SUCH RIDERS."

8. HABIB (DISCUSSION WITH REP BADILLO WHO SUGGESTED PRESENCE OF U.S. TROOPS DEPLOYED IN DMZ WOULD FORCE ENGAGEMENT OF U.S. FORCES IN EVENT OF NORTH KOREAN ATTACK BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION UNDER MST COULD BE TAKEN): "(THOSE TROOPS) ARE DEPLOYED WITHIN THE TERMS OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND INDEED ARE THE TROOPS THAT DEAL WITH THE ARMISTICE AREA ITSELF, THE PANMUNJOM AREA...(IT) IS TRUE THAT THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED. BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY HAVE CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES THAT DERIVE FROM THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WHICH CALLS FOR THEIR PRESENCE THERE."

9. HABIB (ANSWERING BADILLO QUESTION ON FIP): "WE ARE IN FACT ON A CONSULTATIVE BASIS REVIEWING THAT PLAN."

10. HABIB (ANSWERING REP WOLFF'S QUESTION OF ABROGATION OF MST WITH ROC): "WE HAVEN'T GOTTEN TO THAT STAGE. MST EXISTS. AS LONG AS THE MST EXISTS, UNTIL IT IS ABROGATED BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER, THERE IS NOTHING TO DISCUSS IN THAT REGARD. ...OUR POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE ROC AND PRC IS EXACTLY AS LAID OUT IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE." KISSINGER

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